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OUTGOING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

DATE: 25 APRIL 1958	☐ ROUTINE	☒ PRIORITY	☐ URGENT
FROM: WASHINGTON, D.C.	(ORIGINATING OFFICER) [redacted]		(PHONE EXTENSION) 515
TRANSMIT TO: COMMANDING GENERAL AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE DAYTON, OHIO	25X1A9a [redacted] (CLASSIFICATION)		

TYPE IN CAPITAL LETTERS, DOUBLE SPACED

25X1A9a [redacted]

REUR MSG 40483, REQUESTED INFO IS AS FOLLOWS:

NICKEL

TOTAL PRODUCTION OF NICKEL IN BLOC ESTIMATED AT 54,000 METRIC TONS IN 1957, ALL OF WHICH, EXCEPT 150 TONS PRODUCED IN EAST GERMANY, WAS PRODUCED IN USSR. IN 1956 BLOC IMPORTED 1,000 METRIC TONS AND EXPORTED 400 METRIC TONS OF NICKEL. IN USSR, NICKEL REFINERIES ARE LOCATED AS FOLLOWS: SEVERONIKEL' METALLURGICAL COMBINE, MONCHEGORSK; YUZHURALNIKEL COMBINE, ORSK; NORILSK METALLURGICAL COMBINE, NORILSK; AND UFALEY COMBINE, UFALEY. IN EAST GERMANY, REFINED NICKEL PRODUCED AT AUE NICKEL PLANT, AUE.

COLUMBIUM AND TANTALUM

DATA ON SINO-SOVIET BLOC PRODUCTION OF COLUMBIUM AND TANTALUM ARE NOT AVAILABLE. THE BLOC IS KNOWN TO HAVE EXTENSIVE DEPOSITS OF COLUMBIUM AND TANTALUM BEARING MINERALS. SINCE NO ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO PROCURE COLUMBIUM FROM THE FREE WORLD SINCE 1955, IT IS PRESUMED THAT THE BLOC IS SELF-SUFFICIENT IN THIS MATERIAL. TANTALUM APPEARS TO BE IN SHORT SUPPLY, PARTICULARLY IN EAST GERMANY. SMALL QUANTITIES OF TANTALUM METAL HAVE BEEN SMUGGLED INTO EAST GERMANY INTERMITTENTLY AT LEAST SINCE 1953.

RELEASING OFFICER | COORDINATING OFFICERS | AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

[redacted]

CLASSIFICATION

FORM NO. 1 SEP 54 172 REPLACES FORM 37-7 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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TRANSMIT TO:	[redacted] (CLASSIFICATION)

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SINCE MID-1957 REPORTS OF SUCH SMUGGLING HAVE INCREASED. AVAILABLE EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT AT LEAST 100 POUNDS OF TANTALUM METAL HAVE BEEN EXPORTED TO EAST GERMANY FROM WEST GERMANY VIA SWEDEN AND SWITZERLAND IN 1957.

MOLYBDENUM

TOTAL BLOC PRODUCTION OF MOLYBDENUM IN 1957 IS ESTIMATED AT 7,400 METRIC TONS (METALLIC EQUIVALENT OF 65% MOLYBDENITE CONCENTRATES), INCLUDING 5,800 TONS PRODUCED IN THE USSR AND 1,600 TONS IN CHINA. CONCENTRATES PRODUCED IN CHINA ARE EXPORTED TO USSR. USSR ESTIMATE MAY BE AS MUCH AS 25% HIGH. BLOC IMPORTS OF MOLYBDENUM ARE NEGLIGIBLE AND THERE ARE NO EXPORTS. IN USSR, PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF MOLYBDENUM ARE AT TYRNY-AUZ, WHERE ORE IS MINED AND CONCENTRATED AND AT VOSTOCHNO KOUNRADSKIY, WHERE COPPER-MOLYBDENUM ORE IS MINED FOR PROCESSING AT BALKHASH. CHELYABINSK FERROALLOYS PLANT AT CHELYABINSK IS THE PRINCIPAL PRODUCER OF FERROMOLYBDENUM. IN CHINA, ALMOST ALL PRODUCTION OF MOLYBDENUM CONCENTRATES IS AT YANG-CHIA-CHANG-TZU IN LIAONING PROVINCE.

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MERCURY

SINO-SOVIET BLOC PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS OF MERCURY DURING 1957, IN FLASKS OF 76 POUNDS, ARE ESTIMATED AS FOLLOWS: PRODUCTION -- USSR, 27,000; COMMUNIST CHINA, 25,000; RUMANIA, 200; CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 800; TOTAL PRODUCTION, 53,000 FLASKS. IMPORTS FROM FREE WORLD: FROM ITALY AND YUGOSLAVIA, 1,500 TO 4,500. EXPORTS TO FREE WORLD: NEGLIGIBLE. TOTAL NEW SUPPLY OF MERCURY IN THE SINO-SOVIET BLOC DURING 1957 IS ESTIMATED TO BE BETWEEN 54,500 AND 57,500 FLASKS. IN USSR, PLANTS ARE LOCATED AT NIKITOVKA IN UKRAINE AND AT KHADARKAN AND CHAUVAY IN KIRGIZ ASSR. LOCATION OF CHINESE PLANTS IS NOT KNOWN. RUMANIA HAS A PLANT NEAR ZLATNA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA PLANTS AT KOTERBACHY AND GELNICE.

CARBONYL POWDER

DATA ON PRODUCTION OF CARBONYL NICKEL POWDER AND ON TRADE ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR ANY OF BLOC COUNTRIES. USSR HAS AMPLE SUPPLIES OF NICKEL AND HAS TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITY OF PRODUCING SUFFICIENT CARBONYL POWDER TO SUPPLY RELATIVELY SMALL QUANTITIES THAT ARE REQUIRED. IN USSR, CARBONYL NICKEL POWDER IS PRODUCED AT KRASNOYARSK AND POSSIBLY AT MONCHEGORSK.

RELEASING OFFICER: SILVESTER FARRELL /s/ | COORDINATING OFFICERS | AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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